

REMARKS

Claims 1-59 were pending in the application, with Claims 1, 20, 39, 54, and 59 being independent. Applicant cancels Claims 2-14, 19, 21-33, 38, 40-50, and 53-59 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter and amends Claims 1, 15-18, 20, 34-37, 39, and 51-52 to further clarify features of the claimed subject matter. The original specification and drawings support these claim amendments, thus these revisions introduce no new matter.

Claims 1, 15-18, 20, 34-37, 39, and 51-52 are now pending in the application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14-18, 33-37, and 50-52 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims (Office Action, pg. 17).

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claims 14-18, 33-37, and 50-52 are allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's assistance in advancing prosecution of the application.

Applicant amends **independent Claims 1, 20, and 39** to recite features formerly recited in allowable **dependent Claims 14, 33, and 50**, respectively. Applicant further amends independent Claims 1 to recite features formerly recited in intervening

dependent Claims 6-8 and 12 from which the allowable dependent Claim 14 depended. Similarly, Applicant amends independent Claims 20 and 39 to recite features formerly recited in intervening **dependent Claims 25-27, 31, 43-44, and 48**, respectively. The amendments to independent Claims 1, 20, and 39 are purely of form (i.e., dependent format to independent format), and are not to overcome prior art or any other objections. Accordingly, dependent Claims 6-8, 12, 14, 25-27, 31, 33, 43-44, 48, and 50, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter.

Applicant submits that independent **Claims 1, 20, and 39** are in allowable form. **Dependent Claims 15-18, 34-37, and 51-52** depend directly or indirectly from one of independent Claims 1, 20, and 39, respectively, and thus are allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 15-18, 20, 34-37, 39, and 51-52 are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-13, 19-32, 38-49, and 53-59 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,880,089 to Bommareddy et al. (hereinafter “Bomm”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Applicant amended **independent Claims 1, 20, and 39** to recite features formerly recited in allowable dependent Claims 14, 33, and 50, respectively. Furthermore, Applicant amended independent Claims 1, 20, and 39 to recite features formerly recited in dependent Claims 6-8, 12, 25-27, 31, 43-44, and 48, respectively. Accordingly, dependent Claims 6-8, 12, 14, 25-27, 31, 33, 43-44, 48, and 50, have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. In addition, dependent Claims 2-5,

9-11, 13, 19, 21-24, 28-30, 32, 38, 40-42, 45-47, 49, and 53, have also been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. Applicant respectfully submits that the evidence no longer supports an anticipation rejection as Bomm fails to disclose each and every feature recited in Applicant's amended Claims 1, 20, and 39. Applicant respectfully requests the Office to withdraw the rejections in light of the allowable subject matter.

Claims 54-59 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter, thus the § 102 rejection is no longer applicable to these claims.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1, 15-18, 20, 34-37, 39, and 51-52 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of the subject application. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, the Office is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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